

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2007/006890

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/107526 A1 (GREENBERG ROY K [US] ET AL) 8 August 2002 (2002-08-08) the whole document	1-21
X	US 2005/085846 A1 (CARRISON HAROLD F [US] ET AL) 21 April 2005 (2005-04-21) figures	1
A	US 5 098 440 A (HILLSTEAD RICHARD A [US]) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) figures	1-21
A	US 2003/225419 A1 (LIPPITT ROBERT G [US] ET AL) 4 December 2003 (2003-12-04) figures	1-21



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 September 2007

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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		EP 1684646 A1	02-08-2006
		JP 2007508902 T	12-04-2007
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